and when vacancy occurs; if not what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) 3,00,851 as on 31-3-85.

(b) An Extra Departmental Agent, who performs only part time job for the Department for fixed hours of work, on consideration of a consolidated monthly allowance, cannot, in the very nature of things, be regarded as full time Government servents. Therefore there is no question of regularising the services of ED Agents against regular departmental posts. However, the ED Agents are eligible to appear in a qualifying departmental examination for promotion to the Postmen|Group 'D' cadre etcs. subject to certain conditions.

Waiting List of Telephones

1440. SHRI RAOOF VALIULLAH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) the waiting list in different categories for telephone conncetions in the country by the end of the Sixth Plan and the targets of providing new connections during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(b) whether his Department has enough funds to provide telephones to new applicants during the Seventh Five Year Plan period;

(c) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(d) if the answer to part (b) above be in the negative what steps Government propose to take in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Waiting list at the end of the Sixth Plan for OYT category was around .57 and for Non-OYT category aorund 7.772 lakhs. It is proposed to provide 11 lakh additional Direct Exchange lines during the 7th Five Year Plan.

(b) No. Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) Attempts are being made to mobilise more resources through market borrowings. Towards this end as a first step a Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited is being constituted.

Casual Workers in Bihar Postal Services

1441. SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are a large number of casual workers in Bihar Postal Services working for the last several years and their services are not being regularised; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to regularise their services?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Services of casual workers are regularised by appointment against regular group D vacancies. As per extent provisions uniformally applicable to all Central Government departments, full-time casual workers who have worked for 240 days in each of the 2 years preceding the year of regularisation and part-time casual workers who have worked for 480 days in each of the preceding 4 years became eligible for regularisation. All casual workers recruited before 1982 in Bihar Postal Circle have been so regularised. Services of 831 casual workers recruited after 1982 in Bihar Postal Circle are yet to be regularised for want of regular Group D vacancies. Their services will be regularised as and when regular vacancies in Group D became available in Bihar Postal Circle.

Waiting List of Telephones in Allahabad

1442. SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATION be pleased to state:

(a) the latest position of prospective subscribers on the waiting list of Allahabad Telephones for various categories as on the 5th February, 1986; and

(b) by when telephone connections are likely to be provided to them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) The position of prospective subscribers on the waiting list of Allahabad Telephones as on 5-2-1986 is as follows:—

OYT-186 Cleared upto 2-2-1985.

NON-OYT—1717 Cleared upto 23.5.1980 (Gen. & Special)

Special category cleared upto 22-5-84.

(b) The present waiting list is likely to be cleared during 2 to 3 years, subject to availability of equipment, cables and other materials.

Behaviour of Delhi Postal Employees

1443. SHRI NAND KISHORE BHATT: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that incidents of misbehaviour customs have increased in the recent past;

(b) whether Government have received complaints against the staff of the Post Office Patrachar Vidyalaya, Timarpur, Delhi during the last three months;

(c) if so, what action has been taken thereon;

(d) whether Government have any plans to impart training to the postal staff for improving their competency and efficiency and also whether there is any plan to weedout the incompetent and inefficient staff in the post offices in the country; and

(e) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Yes, Sir. Only one complaint has been received.

(c) Immediate enquiries were made. Suitable action is being taken against the concerned officials.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Postal staff excepting Group "D" officials are given induction training before appointment. Besides intensive induction training for 2-1|2 months at the Regional Postal Training Centres. Postal Assistants are also given Refresher training on the completion of 6 to 9 years of service. These training programmes aim at improving the effiency and competency of postal officials.

Provision exists for review of the performance of officials|officers who attain the age of 50|55 years and on the basis of this review incompetent and inefficient officials|officers are retired from the service.

मध्य प्रदेश में सिंगरौली क्षेत्र की विकास योजना

1444. **श्री राधा किशन मालवीय** : क्या ऊर्जा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में सिंगरौली क्षेत्र की विकास योजना तैयार कर ली गई है ;

(ख) यदि हां, तो उपर्युक्त योजना पर कितनी धनराशि खर्च की जाएगी; और

(ग) सिंगरौली की विकास योजना को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए प्रशासनिक ढांचा क्या होगा ?

ऊर्जा मंत्री (श्री वसंत साठे) : (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1974 में बनाए गए मास्टर प्लान की शर्तों के अनुसार सिंग रौली कोयला क्षेत्र का विकास कार्य शुरू कर दिया गया है । इस प्लान के अनुसार इस क्षेत्र में 10 मुख्य कोयला खानों का विकास किया जाना है । इनमें से 8 परियोजनाओं के विकास का अनुमोदन हो गया है, जिनमें कुल पूंजी निवेश रु0 1568 करोड़ का होगा । नौवीं खान की परियोजना का मूल्यांकन हो रहा है एवं दसवी खान ब्लाक का भू-वज्ञानिक समन्वेषण किया जा रहा है ।

(ग) हाल ही में, सिंगरौरली कोयला क्षेत्र की विकास योजना को कार्यान्वित करने के लिए कोल इण्डिया लि0 के अन्तर्गत एक नई सहायक कम्पनी कर्थात्